

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-12, 14-17, and 19-21 are pending in this application, Claims 13 and 18 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; and Claims 11, 12, 14-17, and 19 having been presently amended. Support for amended Claims 11, 12, 14-17, and 19 can be found, for example, in the original claims, drawings, and specification as originally filed.¹ No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 11-14 and 16-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Balan (U.S. Patent No. 7,218,741) in view of Mapes-Riordan et al., "Echo Control in Teleconferencing Using Adaptive Filters," 95th Convention, October 7, 1993; hereinafter "Mapes-Riordan;" and Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Balan in view of Mapes-Riordan and Sim (U.S. Patent No. 6,771,219). Claims 1, 3-8, and 10 were indicated as allowed.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter.

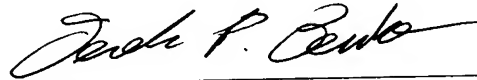
In light of this indication, and in order to expedite the issuance of a patent from the present application, Claims 11 and 17 have been amended to include features of allowable Claims 2 and 9, respectively, which were indicated as allowable in the Office Action of October 8, 2008. Accordingly, only claims including allowable subject matter remain pending, and no further issues are believed to be outstanding.

¹ See original Claims 2 and 9.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1, 3-8, 10-12, 14-17, and 19-21 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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